

## Andrew Jackson to John T. Sullivan et al, August 3, 1833, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

TO JOHN T. SULLIVAN, HENRY D. GILPIN, AND PETER WAGER.<sup>1</sup>

1 Copy.

Rip Raps, August 3, 1833.

*Gentlemen*, I am informed that there is a book of expences kept at the Bank and which comes before the dividend committee semiannually. If any of you have had, or can have access to that Book, I should be glad to learn what were the expences of the last year, and also of the preceding year, for what particulars incurred—all directors have a right to see and inspect this Book and if refused to the government directors, report the same to me.

Mr. Walch<sup>2</sup> admitted in his paper, that his publisher had received about \$1000, for printing newspapers calculated to operate in the elections. This leads me to think, and believe, that a considerable sum of the expences of the Bank, has been incurred in this way. As it is my duty to see that the funds of the Government intrusted to the institution are not misapplied, and for which purpose you are appointed, and as it is your duty, as the representa [ti]ves of the Government in the Board of Directors to furnish the Executive branch of the Government such information as will enable it to act understandingly in protecting and guarding its interests, I desire that you will obtain and furnish me a statement of the accounts of the Bank expences. They can in no sense be considered *private* accounts. They are the accounts of a public institutions expenditures, upon the honest and proper appropriation of which, must depend to some extent, the confidence which the administration of the General Government may feel at liberty to repose in it.

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I should consider it proper on your part, if an examination of these accounts should be denied by the officer keeping them, to demand a view of them by motion at the Board of Directors. If it be refused, then report the same forthwith to me, and at the same time give me all the information and knowledge in regard to these accounts which you may have acquired in discharge of your duty as a director.

2 Robert Walsh, who in 1819 established the *National Gazette*, and was connected with it until 1836.

I am with great respect yr mo. obdt. Servt.